

À la claire fontaine

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Lyrics in French

À la claire fontaine
M'en allant promener,
J'ai trouvé l'eau si belle,
Que je m'y suis baignée.

*Il y a longtemps que je t'aime
Jamais je ne t'oublierai.*

Sous les feuilles d'un chêne
Je me suis fait sécher,
Sur la plus haute branche,
Un rossignol chantait.

*Il y a longtemps que je t'aime
Jamais je ne t'oublierai.*

Chante, rossignol, chante,
Toi qui as le cœur gai,
Tu as le cœur à rire,
Moi, je l'ai à pleurer.

*Il y a longtemps que je t'aime
Jamais je ne t'oublierai.*

J'ai perdu mon ami
Sans l'avoir mérité,
Pour un bouquet de roses,
Que je lui refusai.

*Il y a longtemps que je t'aime
Jamais je ne t'oublierai.*

Je voudrais que la rose
Fût encore au rosier,
Et que ma douce amie
Fût encore à m'aimer.

English translation

By the clear fountain,
going for a walk,
I found the water so beautiful,
that I bathed in it.

*I've loved you for a long time
I will never forget you.*

Under the leaves of an oak tree
I got dried up,
on the highest branch,
a nightingale was singing.

*I've loved you for a long time
I will never forget you.*

Sing, nightingale, sing,
You who have a cheerful heart,
You have the heart to laugh,
Me, I have it to cry.

*I've loved you for a long time
I will never forget you.*

I lost my friend
Without having deserved it,
For a bouquet of roses,
which I refused him.

*I've loved you for a long time
I will never forget you.*

I would like that the rose
was still on the rosebush,
And that my sweet friend
was still [here] to love me.

